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value of green sheaves. We believe that as the quantities of prairie hay available for feeding cattle are gradually being reduced green sheaves can profitably be grown to take the place of prairie hay. At the prices which cattle in these tests have paid, namely \$10.00 per ton, green feed is a profitable farm crop and, after paying for it at this valuation it has always been possible to feed cattle profitably. Last year steers fed green sheaves produced beef at a cost of \$8.75 per 100 lbs. We believe that feeders will not be handicapped unduly by the gradual disappearance of prairie hay, valuable tho it is, where it is available.

We have never practised full feeding of cattle, but usually commence grain rations at the rate of three pounds per head per day, increasing one pound per head per day each week. The maximum amounts of grain reached have varied according to weight of cattle, and character of bulky fodder being used, the extremes being from 8 pounds to 16 1/2 pounds at the finish.

Early Maturity the Aim

The ages of cattle have run from two to four years, but as the cattle business develops and the amount of free range decreases, the age limits will be reduced and more cattle will go on the market at two years than at present. Well bred young cattle that are fed well from the time they are weaned should go on the market at two years old and reach the present most popular weights of from twelve to fourteen hundred pounds. The earlier marketing of stock will permit the more frequent use of money and increase the profits by reducing cost of gains since gains on young cattle are produced for less money than on

older stock under similar conditions. It is true, of course, that the amount of free range has made possible the growing of beef at a low cost and the holding of cattle until three or four years old, has, under these conditions, been profitable. Increased land values and closer settlement will, however, necessitate a change from this practice.

Last spring this station purchased 100 head of two and three-year-old cattle and placed them on a fenced section of well watered pasture of native prairie grass. These cattle represented various breeds and were certainly not above the average class of cattle available in this country. It would be an easy matter to secure a superior lot for experimental purposes, but the idea was to secure an average bunch. These cattle were bought in different groups and weighed out to pasture and weighed in from pasture again in the same groups. The average gains made were satisfactory, reaching 358 pounds. While the section of land would not have carried many more animals the pasturage was certainly quite sufficient for this number. The season this year was favorable for growth of grass, and perhaps it would be unfair to say a good grass section one year with another would carry the same number we ran on this land this year. I am, however, inclined to think that such an estimate would not be far from the average.

The following tables give the results in greater detail and the figures open the way for free play in the imagination and lead one to estimate the wonderful wealth of the country, were all the grass now going to waste turned into beef and money:

Gains Made by Steers on Pasture

Lot	Date on pasture	Weight	Ax. weight	Date from pasture	Fall weight	Average weight	Gain
54	May 14, 1915	43,154 lbs.	799 lbs.	November 5, 1915	64,420 lbs.	1,193 lbs.	304 lbs.
7	May 22, 1915	5,590 lbs.	799 lbs.	November 6, 1915	7,755 lbs.	1,166 lbs.	360 lbs.
21	June 4, 1915	21,340 lbs.	1,016 lbs.	November 5, 1915	25,800 lbs.	1,371 lbs.	355 lbs.
29	June 9, 1915	18,300 lbs.	915 lbs.	November 5, 1915	23,920 lbs.	1,196 lbs.	281 lbs.
The 102		88,354 lbs.	966 lbs.		124,895 lbs.	1,224 lbs.	358 lbs.

Co-operation plus Cash

Continued from Page 11

association fails thru lack of their support, it will be clear that any slight immediate saving which such an offer might mean will be repaid over and over again by paying a fair price to the association. Among the many ideas which experience in handling the association has brought out, W. H. Ketchison mentioned that it would be better if the shares were higher, say \$25 each, with \$5 cash down, and the balance at the call of the directors. It is natural for a man to take interest in a concern in proportion to the amount which he has at stake in it. The small amount paid down on the shares would not prove too much for anyone who wished to be a member. Then, again, it is best to pay the manager a fixed salary. If a commission on sales is made, altho it might induce greater energy on the manager's part to make the association a success, there is always a chance for some member becoming dissatisfied with the amount of salary the manager is getting if business increases rapidly and becomes large. On the other hand, if the manager does not take a proper interest in the business at a fixed salary, he can be replaced by one who will. The suggestion was made that in order to stop the retail merchants from underselling the association—that is, selling below cost delivered at the station—with a view to causing it to fail, legislation be passed making it illegal for any company having a number of local branches throughout the province to sell its goods lower at one point than at another, due allowance, of course, being made for cost of freight, etc. Another point brought up was that the act was too strict in some ways. A case in point was that of a homesteader who came to town with ten bushels of wheat which he wanted to sell to get money with which to buy supplies. The elevators were all filled up and not buying. He was a Grain Grower and could purchase from the association, but instead of cash he has value in ten bushels of wheat. The association is not allowed to sell on credit. The storekeeper will finance the man and let him trade his

wheat for goods. Naturally the homesteader feels indebted to the storekeeper. Then again, a member has no cash. He wants a few things, but because he belongs to the association the storekeeper will not give him anything on credit. Out of self-protection that man will trade with the storekeeper if he knows that he will be hard up for cash during some part of the year. The suggestion whereby this might be overcome to some extent was that the act be amended to allow a shareholder to borrow or have company credit up to 50 or 75 per cent. of his share value.

These and many other questions are constantly cropping up. One of the very best ways to deal with some of them would be to have a convention of all the secretaries or managers of the co-operative buying or selling associations in the province and there discuss ways and means of improving co-operative work generally. The Davidson Co-operative Purchasing Association has been highly successful. Associations run along similar lines can be operated in every rural community throughout the West. The advantage in the saving of dollars and cents is a strong reason for their adoption, but it is by no means the sole or chief one. The principle of co-operation is fundamental. As J. L. Paton said before the British Association, "It is not by struggle that the fittest survive; it is by mutual aid, by fellowship, by association, by co-operation one with another. That is really the law of evolution hitherto, and it is going to be the law, and principle that will guide progress in the future."

The only class of livestock showing a decline in numbers in Manitoba during 1915 has been pigs. The number of pigs in the province, according to the latest crop bulletin, was 286,433 in 1915, as compared with 325,416 in 1914. The greatest increase in any class of stock showed in cattle, there being 631,065 head in 1915 as against 498,040 in 1914. The increase in horses and sheep was slight in each case.

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Poultry Raising

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At very small outlay, and with little extra work, every farm can be made to supply fresh eggs and a welcome change of meat for the dinner table.

AS A PROFITABLE SIDE LINE

The bright dry climate of the Prairie Provinces, the cheap land, cheap feed, and ready markets, make poultry raising a most profitable side line on the farm. It requires little capital to start, does not seriously interfere with other farm work, and is a source of income every month in the year.

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After good birds the chief essential to successful poultry raising is a suitable house, so that intelligent care can be given the flock. The bulletin, prepared by the College of Agriculture of the University of Saskatchewan on

POULTRY HOUSES FOR THE PRAIRIE FARM

contains complete plans with bills of material for a number of poultry houses, together with directions for the proper care of hens. It will prove of value both to beginners and to experienced poultry raisers. This bulletin, or any of the others named below will be sent FREE, on application to the Chief Forester, Victoria, B. C. -

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2-Dairy Barns  
3-Beef Cattle Barns  
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