

and sulphate of zinc used either as a dip, or stomach and bowels, probable cause of the. For this purpose oil gives good results, spoonfuls of either, ent. Of course, for t be less. The feed nature for a few days, and general care to

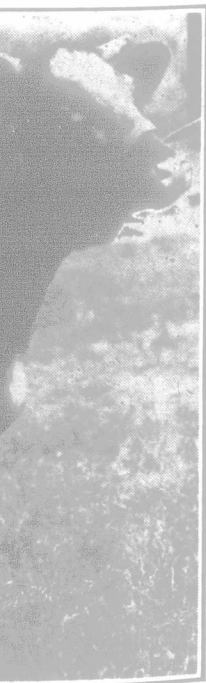
WHIP.

s are Most

entry, one can fairly which a good number earance of the crops, are fed back into the stock, are usually man where the crops and to reason that and hay off the farm after year, unless a ded on commercial ally a falling off in izer will not entirely e. When our farms owners become more of the stable manure, in the new land, and ain farming without ure soon takes the results are a lessening out soon it becomes even in a favorable en well stocked and year and return a manure add plantfood o the heavy clay soils It also makes light thus we find it good ion frequently arises red-acre farm carry? set, as it depends so e soil, but one thing animals kept on the own, and instead of e barnyard it should the growing of larger be kept. There are h not over fifteen to sow and a few head rms of like size over a brood sows, and a re maintained. The or will be the manure. ntity of concentrates d into pork and beef

ld be taken into con- will consume practic- s, or pure-bred stock, ue. It costs a good than it did ten years on it is to feed it to son has grades is no improvement and keep omical gains in the

e farm unless one is ney in the purchasing ere a large herd has s they have come out condition. In such e on good grass to fall before. There is



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bound to be the temptation to sell the hay and grain at the present high prices, but one must look ahead and consider the effect this will have on the productivity of the farm a few years hence. The farms on which a large number of live stock are well kept are and will continue to be the heaviest producing. It is a case of growing bigger crops to feed more live stock to produce still larger crops.

THE FARM.

Muskoka Sunflowers.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

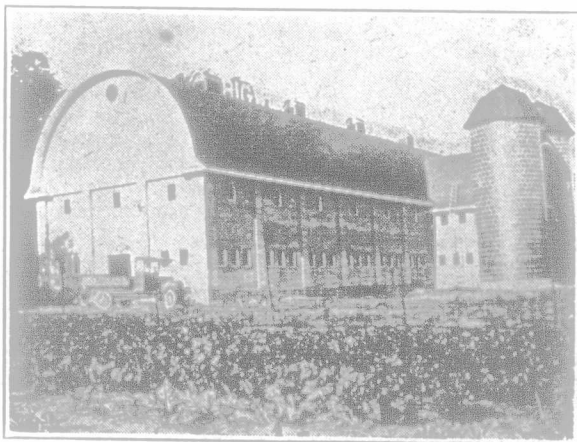
Corresponding with other sections of Ontario, the season of 1920 has brought to the District of Muskoka and Parry Sound very favorable returns. Notwithstanding apparent backwardness of weather, the growth of field and garden crops has been remarkable, particularly in the rapid maturing of oats and peas during August. The spring wheat acreage was relatively small and probably hardly equal to that of last year. For a couple of reasons it does not promise to hold a conspicuous place in the husbandry of the lake region, where supplies of winter fodder for live stock are so essential. The staple oat crop area is said to be larger and the stand and quality certainly appear to be above the average. The heads filled wonderfully well, and in the fields observed, little smut was to be seen. By August 16th the self-binders were under way, and cutting quite general during the weeks ending the 21st and 28th. Some fields are cut green for winter feeding. As a reminder of old, old times when people seemed to like work, in one good-sized field near Falkenberg a sturdy harvester was noticed slashing down the grain with a cradle, providing a hand binding job for some one with a wooden rake. The pea crop, which is a feature of Muskoka husbandry, is also exceptionally fine. One field in Loring locality was expected to go 40 bushels per acre. The fodder is, of course, prized for sheep, and the grain for chop mixtures. Compared with oats and peas, barley does not make quite as satisfactory a showing. No. 21 is the principal variety grown, having been fairly well distributed through the field crop competition. Considerable improvement is expected in the quality of grain crops because of the superior seed of oats, barley and Marquis wheat distributed through the agency of the Northern Development Branch to which settlers gave their notes.

Owing to the proximity of frosts at each end of the season, field corn does not find these districts quite as congenial as farther south in the Province. Some fair patches were observed, but many were uneven and had not made the growth expected by the end of the third week in August. Naturally there are few silos and a considerable interest has been awakened over the possibilities of the sunflower as a silage crop. It may be planted with safety earlier in spring and will stand more frost when maturing. A demonstration is in progress this season near Huntsville on the E. O. Shaw dairy farms, one of which has been splendidly equipped with a modern barn and twin block silos. A 6 or 7-acre field was sown this spring with mammoth Russian sunflower, and when seen on August 23rd had made a stronger growth than flint corns planted about the same time. The soil preparation and manuring were practically identical, and it appeared to have been drilled in about the same thickness and distance apart. In some drills corn and sunflower seed has been mixed and with a very early maturing variety of corn this plan might prove advantageous. The sunflower stalks were not of uniform height in all parts of the field, but at the date mentioned many of them measured 6½ feet to the top. As a rule, the main stalk was not very coarse and carried a fair load of foliage and the flower heads were forming, giving promise of being ready for the silo along in September. Another season it might be worth while trying out the branching strain of sunflower. Plants of this type in Western Ontario this season were 10 feet high on August 25th, and had lateral branches from near the bottom numbering 15 or 20 each bearing a flower. The stalks are less coarse than the mammoth sort. R. S. Beckett, the Agricultural Representative for these districts, who is keeping tab on the experiment is favorably impressed with its progress. Mr. Shaw, head of the Colossal Anglo Canadian Leather enterprise and the creative genius of the Bigwin Island Inn on Lake of Bays, is developing milk production on a growing scale and also vegetable production for the summer tourist resort and for local demand as well. The stabling illustrated herewith affords an idea of the way in which his undertakings are being carried on.

The northern potato crop promises well. Last year two car loads of certified seed tubers were shipped out, and there will probably be as many this year in addition to the general surplus. Mosaic and leaf roll are not serious. Black leg, a fungous disease, turning the foliage yellow and going into the roots and ending in rot, causes more apprehension. Green Mountain and Empire State with some Irish Cobblers, are varieties finding favor. Mangels did not get a good start, but turnips are looking fine. On one farm where artificial fertilizer was used on mangels, a portion was left untreated, and there was at least 75 per cent. difference in favor of the appearance of the fertilized portion. There will be nearly double the quantity of fodder for wintering compared with 1919, and there are no more if as many cattle to eat it, owing to stocks having been sold down so close last year when fodder was short. Sheep look well, but the drop in wool and lamb prices is not encouraging this most deserving branch of hus-

bandry. The activity in lumbering naturally draws away any surplus help so that on small holdings no stock can be handled so easily and economically as sheep. The hog industry is progressing in Parry Sound as well as cattle. One drover at Powassan last season shipped out over 50 car loads of stock. Farmers' clubs, of which there are about 20, are shipping some stock and procuring considerable material for farm use in car lots. This season there will be about nine school fairs, some directed from the office of the Agricultural Representative and others looked after by the Women's Institutes, which are doing useful work, including medical inspection in schools. No move is reported towards rural school consolidation, the winter road obstacle being practically insurmountable. Dairying holds its own, one butter factory being in operation and more cream is being shipped out. As usual during summer, there is the strong tourist demand for supplies of butter, milk and cream. Berries, wild and cultivated, were an abundant crop, but the exactions of the sugar lords who had plenty to ship across the lines, had a rather restrictive effect upon canning and preserving.

ALPHA.



A Muskoka Dairy Barn.

The two silos illustrated will soon be full of sunflower silage.

Acres of Sweet Clover For Seed.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Having taken an outing recently, and studied the crop outlook, I was surprised to see the many acres of sweet clover being left for seed. Much of it is standing from six to eight feet in height and showing an enormous crop of strong, woody stems and branches heavily in bloom, betokening a heavy crop of seed, which, if anywhere near the price of last spring, will lift many old mortgages, and put the farm and the farmer in a position of affluence beyond the dreams of the fabled El-Dorado of South America.

Here in our midst has arisen, within twelve years, a great enterprise. It dates from a brief letter appearing in "The Farmer's Advocate," advising farmers to sow sweet clover as a forage crop, the writer giving as a



An Immense Corn Crop.

This crop is growing on the farm of C. M. Dennis, North Norwich Tp. The man in the picture stands 5 feet 10½ inches.

reason "the liking his driver had for it," and how the horse got fat on this "weed" growing luxuriantly upon waste land, even on drifting sand.

Your comments upon the letter and other letters of criticism appearing throughout Ontario attracted attention. A few tried small patches of it; the Provincial and Dominion Experimental Farms tested it; and in spite of the cry of many farmers that it was a "bad weed," that farms would be ruined and nothing else would get room to grow, it was sown and it grew. Waste places became tillable; cold, damp, sandy land produced it, where no other legume would grow; sour lands became sweetened, which with proper drainage pro-

duced cereals which never had grown on them before. Nitrogenous matter was deposited in the soil even to a greater extent than any of the other legume crops gave, and being a biennial it was found easy to plow the second crop under, which, with a good skimmer plow, leaves the ground in good order. We shall wait patiently to learn the result the coming year of the first venture of a substitute for the summer-fallow for fall wheat. There is a possibility, where a good catch of sweet clover has covered the ground, that it may be a check to the dreaded perennial sow thistle. Too many fields now are yellow, or beyond that stage and have the tuft of cotton, like a dandelion, spreading out to carry the seed on the small parachute anywhere and everywhere.

The first cutting of sweet clover is ready just as the perennial sow thistle is coming into bloom, and when cut at that time there is every chance of the second crop of clover weakening the sow thistle so much that, where land is rich enough, any suitable crop may be sown afterwards with safety.

As for a money-maker, we must wait for another year to tell the tale. That so much sweet clover has been left for seed this year in Ashfield, Huron and Kincardine Townships is due to the heavy yield and big prices for seed of last year. The biggest crop I know of last year was grown by Mr. Campbell, of Huron Township, from which was realized the handsome sum of \$2,500 from eight acres.

No one can compute the great gain, not only to Ontario but the world, which is due to this very bad weed, that has become a plant worthy of the husbandman's care, and every person should appreciate your efforts, through "The Farmer's Advocate," in bringing it before the public. One farmer in this County has 50 acres left for seed.

Bruce County, Ont.

Wm. WELSH.

The Effect of Increased Railway and Telephone Rates.]

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Just at a time when people in general are expecting a lowering in the cost of living, two of the great industries, viz., the railway corporations and the Bell Telephone Company, apply to the Board of Railway Commissioners for permission to very materially raise freight, passenger and telephone rates. While they may be able to show wherein the revenue is not sufficient to meet the expenditures and allow for upkeep, if the Board will look into the matter carefully they will surely find some other means of meeting the discrepancies besides inflicting upon the masses greater burdens along the above-mentioned lines. We believe such increases in the rates would be suicidal for the companies asking them, as well as burdensome to those who are compelled to buy the service they give. The increase of freight rates has already caused the general use of the motor truck from city to city, which will be greatly increased as highways are improved, and if rates are further increased there will be absolutely no inducement to ship by freight. And whatever happens with freight rates will surely follow in express rates, with like results, eventually putting many articles of merchandise off the market altogether. An increase in passenger rates will also have detrimental results. Present indications are that money is flush and people will spend it. Very many do not seem to value money; they spend it freely in travel, etc., but this is not going to continue for long, possibly some can see the beginning of the end right now. An increase in rates will surely reduce travel. With many thousands of breadwinners out of employment in the large centres, owing to plants of different kinds reducing their staffs or closing down entirely, it would be anything but reasonable to suppose that the abundant returns from the farms of Canada, (which we should all be thankful for) are going to materially reduce the cost of living unless other articles of commerce lower at the same time.

As we have already intimated, it may be necessary to increase the revenue in proportion to the expenditure, but there are other ways of doing it besides raising the rates. While it is not for me to say how it can be done, we might suggest a few things that possibly could be done under such extreme conditions, but we don't believe it can be carried out without the shoe pinching someone. First, it might be possible to reduce some very high salaries; second, it might be possible to reduce the number of trains in certain divisions, but even this cannot be done without inconveniencing the travelling public more or less, and reducing the number on the pay-rolls, or the number of hours that each one can be employed; third, it might be possible to set aside (entirely for the time being) certain portions of roads that parallel other roads, some of which were built perhaps twenty years too soon, and some perhaps should never have been built at all. Any one of these three propositions could, no doubt, be worked to the general welfare of the Dominion, and if all three were partially practiced it would mean many millions saved annually to the railways of Canada without penalizing the people. And what applies to the railway corporations applies very largely to the Bell Telephone Company. If their rates materially increase it will mean the removal of thousands of telephones from subscribers' walls. The facts are that the rates are too high at the present time for the service rendered. This is a very inopportune time for the raising of rates. The tide has turned towards more moderate costs of living. Let us hope that the Board of Railway Commissioners will not sanction any move that will put a wrench in the machinery at the present time, but, on the other hand, will encourage these two great industries to live, as it were, upon the past, or curtail their expenditures for