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note that Section 5, Sub-section 5, of the Agricultural Co-operative Associations Act of Saskatchewan, is as follows: "No association shall sell its goods, wares or merchandise to its shareholders, patrons or customers except for cash. No credit shall be given." This act represents the matured judgment of the gentlemen who speak for the associated grain growers of the province. They have decided that so far as they are concerned the farmer must pay cash, but what if he cannot do so? Have they announced any policy to fit such cases? To protect the man who, though he may be honest, hardworking, sober and intelligent, has yet not got far enough in the race for existence to have accumulated a surplus or even to be able to obtain a loan from the bank. Do they suggest that such farmers shall throw up the sponge and become day laborers—because they cannot get supplies? Or is it their thought that they shall take the money in the country from those who have it and let the rest be supported by the retailer?

Let us have a straight statement of their position in this matter from the gentlemen who are running this business. Sub-section 7 of the same Section provides: "The association, in so far as transactions in farm supplies are concerned, shall, after December 31, 1915, sell only to its shareholders and members of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association." Exactly what that means is not clear. There is certainly a distinction between general merchandise and "farm supplies." Besides, Sub-section 5, above quoted, speaks of "customers" as distinguished from shareholders and patrons—which looks as if they were to sell to the public. Again the poorer farmer, who cannot invest in such associations, should know where he stands with reference to buying from them.

(5) Finally, the question arises, is there any real necessity for the formation of farmers' co-operative associations? No doubt it is to the interest of those who would manage such, those who would receive salaries for conducting such enterprises; if they should be established in the greatest number, but is there any real call for them from the viewpoint of the successful farmer? It may be said that he will get his commodities cheaper and it is true that our pocket books are very close to the hearts of everyone of us, yet the fact remains that the farmers of this country have been wonderfully successful under the old system. Shall they now take their money and invest it in stores? Will their service be radically improved? Will it not rather on the whole be weakened? Will they want to take the chance of poor management in particular cases? Are they going to finance their weaker brethren? The future will answer these questions.

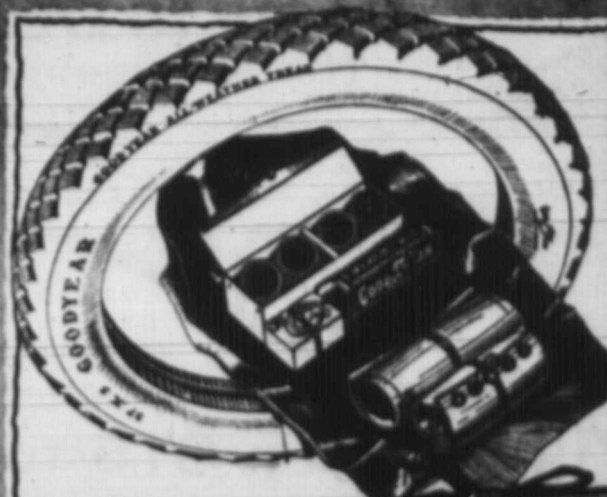
Merchants' co-operative buying associations, bank credit, mail order houses, etc., will be dealt with in an early issue.

WHAT DO YOUR COWS YIELD?

By C. W. F.

Contrasts of various kinds occur in many dairy herds. The eighteen cows in one herd in Ontario last year gave an average yield of 7,494 pounds of milk, 3.4 test and 239 pounds of fat. The individual tests varied from 3.0 to 4.3 per cent of fat as an average for the full lactation period. One cow gave 10,429 pounds of milk; another, seven years old, gave only 6,290 pounds. Think of it, 4,000 pounds less! One dame of eighteen summers gave 270 pounds of fat, and a two year old gave 237 pounds. The highest yield of fat was 337 pounds of fat from a seven-year-old, another seven-year-old gave only 205 pounds of fat. If these two cows were fed grain in proportion to yield of fat, no expensive feed need have been misused. A herd of 17 cows close by averaged only 155 pounds of fat. It pays to find out just what individual contrasts are included in averages.

Another herd of 11 cows within a mile or two, that included five two-year-olds, averaged 7,780 pounds of milk and 297 pounds of fat. A two-year-old gave 219 pounds of fat, and an eight-year-old gave 390 pounds. It pays to check up the individual yields.



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W. J. Stark, Edmonton, Alta., Secretary

Circuit Dates For 1917:

Manager

Calgary	June 28-July 5	E. L. Richardson
Red Deer	July 5-7	G. H. Lindsay
Edmonton	July 9-14	W. J. Stark
Brandon	July 16-20	W. I. Smale
Regina	July 23-27	D. T. Elderkin
Saskatoon	July 30-Aug. 3	C. D. Fisher
North Battleford	Aug. 6-8	F. Wright
Yorkton	Aug. 6-7	J. A. Duncan
Prince Albert	Aug. 9-11	W. G. McDougall
Weyburn	Aug. 8-11	Frank Heard

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