

The Season in P. E. I.

Editor Farm and Dairy.—Prince Edward Island has enjoyed a very fair season. While the late wet spring delayed operations considerably, the growing season was very favorable, and the greater bulk of the grain was housed in splendid condition. The hay and clover crops were about average. Wheat was much below average, owing to unfavorable weather conditions, along with insect pests, rust and blight. This is unfortunate, as the average down to wheat was larger than last year. Rust and smut did considerable damage to the oat crop, which is also somewhat below average. Barley straw was short and the crop lacked vigor, although the heads seemed fairly well filled. The potato crop presented a splendid appearance. The beetle was very troublesome and blight was also doing damage, but the general opinion seems to be that the yield will be better than average, the acreage being

much larger than last year. Fruits, including apples, piums and strawberries, show nearly an average crop, cherries being below average.

The demand for horses on the island is poor and prices are low. Farmers are overstocked in this line, and a large number are being offered for sale. The demand for milch cows is strong; good stock is scarce and prices are high. The supply of milk will be slightly below average, but the high prices of dairy products have stimulated feeding, and selection and better care in the handling and preparation of milk for manufacture. There is an increase in the number of sheep throughout the province, and an improvement is noted in mutton type and quality. An increase is also noted in the number of laying hens kept, as well as in the quantity of fatted poultry. The demand for hogs is keen, and prices are high. Here, also, the quality of the stock has improved.—G. C. R., Queens Co., P.E.I.

Mr. Crerar's Appointment

The announcement of the appointment of Mr. T. A. Crerar to a position in the Cabinet of the recently formed Union Government is an indication of the growing strength of the farmers' movement in western Canada. While to some extent Mr. Crerar may be expected to represent the organized farmers of Ontario also, the fact that no representative farmer from Ontario has been appointed to a position in the new Cabinet indicates that as yet the movement in Ontario has not made the important headway to lead the government to feel it necessary to recognize it by the making of such appointments.

There probably is no stronger man in the farmers' movement than Mr. Crerar. The great success of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, to which to a large extent the success of the farmers' companies and organizations in western Canada has been due, may be attributed largely to Mr. Crerar's ability, energy and foresight. There are numerous strong men in the farmers' movement in western Canada, but among them all Mr. Crerar's qualities as a leader are fully recognized, and his services to the movement appreciated.

The position that will be held by Mr. Crerar in the Union Government is one that will be surrounded by many difficulties. The farmers of Canada feel that very heavy burdens are being placed upon them by unjust discriminations in the tariff, by the railroads and by other business interests. Mr. Crerar recognizes this and can be depended upon to do all that is within his power to improve conditions. Against him, however, it is within his powerful interests which are certain to block many reforms which he would like to accomplish. It is too early to predict just what farmers as a class may expect from the Union Government in the way of reforms that will tend to improve their conditions. In the light of natural conditions, however, it is fortunate that the bitterness of party strife in the approaching political campaign is likely to be largely eliminated.

Cooperative Live Stock Shipping

Walter H. Smith, G.S.A., Leeds County, Ont.

Our Cooperative Association has gotten under way on a county basis. We held the first meeting of the county directors in the office here August 24th, when officers were elected and general policy decided on, it being the purpose to conduct the association along the lines already carried out by the different local branches. In addition to this, it was decided to undertake the immediate shipment of hogs through the association. A committee was appointed to investigate the situation and I was asked to interview the wholesalers regarding the matter. As we had prepared the way by previous interviews early in the winter, it was comparatively easy to sell these hogs on quality basis. A meeting of the executive was held in Lansdowne on Sept. 6th, at which meeting the committee reported. The report was received favorably, and rules and regulations for marketing hogs were decided upon.

To date we have shipped one car load of hogs. These were sold f.o.b. to the Wm. Davies Co. As a result of this we received 17c a pound net to the farmers for quality hogs. At the time of our shipment the local drovers were offering 15c a pound net to the farmers, but as a result of the association buying they advanced that price, paying as high as 16c, and in one instance as high as 16½c to farmers. The plan evidently is going to work out similarly to the cooperative marketing of eggs and poultry; that is, not only are the members benefited, but prices generally are raised and the whole community is benefited by the undertaking.

Our load of hogs went through in first-class shape, the average weight for load of hogs shipped being 193 pounds, and the report received was that our hogs were entirely satisfactory.

During the filling of the silo there is danger of death from asphyxiation by fumes of carbon dioxide. Large amounts of gas are produced in the silo and may be in dangerous quantities if conditions become favorable. To avoid accumulations of gas, doors should be left open as long as possible. Men should not stay in the silo when the blower is not running; and, above all, they should not lie on the fresh silage. If work has been stopped for any length of time, men should not again enter the silo until the blower has been working a few minutes in order to remove the gases. In the case of the pit silo, men should never remain in it when the blower

is not running; and the blower should also be running before anyone enters.—Nebraska Agricultural College.

POULTRY



Timely Poultry Notes

By A. P. Marshall.

To some extent hens may be forced to pick their own living, but thus practice can be abused. Every collector of hens should have at least one good feeding a day. Two later in the evening this is given the more the birds will be encouraged to pick their own feed, but it should be given if the best results are expected in producing results. Eggs are hatched now as compared with other years, and a little feed given just before going to bed will give the hen that much more food with which to make eggs. It will also increase the egg production. Of course this only applies to birds on free range. Enclosed birds will have to be fed differently, or they will merely exist and no eggs result.

Do not feed high-priced grain to cockerels weighing over two pounds unless it is desired that they be kept for breeding purposes or caponized. Every cockerel not intended for a breeder should be sold between the weights of one and one-half and two pounds. It is much more profitable to sell them at this weight, getting 25c per pound, than to hold them until such time as they will double their weight and the price be reduced one-half per pound. A two-pound bird marketed worth 60c, is worth more to say the same bird marketed in November weighing five pounds and bringing only 15c per pound.

With grains at the present high prices, every feeder will do well to lift his cracked corn and cracked wheat for every speck of meal that would go to waste if fed on the ground. In making a change in rations for little chicks it is better to be on the safe side and feed small grains instead of grains that are so large. In changing from cracked feed to the cracked corn and wheat it is a good plan to mix the two half-and-half for a week or ten days before changing entirely to the cracked corn and wheat. Then the change should be made gradually. Wheat and corn too large in size causes digestive troubles and malnutrition.

There is much better for the grower to raise chick than plenty of green feed. After the grass becomes tough the chick can be kept growing, and growing rapidly, if green feed in the form of sprouted oats is substituted. Oats can easily be sprouted in the summer time by digging a hole in the ground about six inches deep and about two feet wide, and spreading a layer of oats about an inch thick in the bottom, and wetting this twice a day and keeping a wet burlap bag over the top of it, the oats will sprout rapidly. As soon as they are sprouted two or three inches it is time to feed them. The end of the trench may be left open to let the chicks eat out of their own accord, or they may be picked out and fed. The entire oat—hull, roots and green—should be given.

Provide for the chicks fresh ground feed when the grass becomes tough. Allow them access, if possible, to the corn field. Here there is sufficient green feed and abundance of shade. If the hens are hungry, give them the best blintz treatment. Give them a blintz answers the same purpose. Use

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When the Leaves Fall

The Fall of the year is perhaps the busiest time for the ever-busy Dairy farmer. It is then that a labor saving device, such as the

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