

The Ontario Agricultural Gazette

The Official Bulletin of the Dominion Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, and of the Farmers' Institute System of the Province of Ontario.

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No. 35

THE DOMINION CATTLE, SHEEP, AND SWINE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

Annual Membership Fees:—Cattle Breeders' \$1; Sheep Breeders', \$1; Swine Breeders', 2.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Each member receives a free copy of each publication issued by the Association to which he belongs, during the year in which he is a member. In the case of the Swine Breeders' Association this includes a copy of the Swine Record.

A member of the Swine Breeders' Association is allowed to register pigs at 50c. per head; non-members are charged \$1.00 per head.

A member of the Sheep Breeders' Association is allowed to register sheep at 50c. per head, while non-members are charged \$1.00.

The name and address of each member, and the stock he has for sale, are published once a month. Over 12,000 copies of this directory are mailed monthly. Copies are sent to each Agricultural College and each Experiment Station in Canada and the United States, also to prominent breeders and probable buyers resident in Canada, the United States and elsewhere.

A member of an Association will only be allowed to advertise stock corresponding to the Association to which he belongs; that is, to advertise cattle he must be a member of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, to advertise sheep he must be a member of the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association, and to advertise swine he must be a member of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association.

The list of cattle, sheep, and swine for sale will be published in the third issue of each month. Members having stock for sale, in order that they may be included in the Gazette, are required to notify the undersigned by letter on or before the 9th of each month, of the number, breed, age, and sex of the animals. Should a member fail to do this his name will not appear in that issue. The data will be published in the most condensed form.

F. W. HOBSON, Secretary.
Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

List of Members.

The following is a list of the members received since our last list published:

Halton.....	1
Huro. East.....	1
Norfol. South.....	5
Ontario North.....	21
Parry Sound East.....	1
Peel.....	2
Perth North.....	7
Peterboro' East.....	3
Simcoe Centre.....	6
York East.....	2
York West.....	10

Farmers' Institutes' Annual Reports.

There has been a great improvement during the past five years in the local management of the Farmers' Institutes throughout the province. Five, six and seven years ago in the majority of cases it was necessary for Dr. Mills, who was then acting superintendent, to write to the president or secretary of an institute four or five times before he could get an answer; in fact, no one was quite sure who the president or secretary was at that time. Since then the leading farmers in many of the districts have wakened up to the fact that organization is a good thing, and that an organized farmers' club, which an institute really is, is just what the farmers need and that such can be made of great service to the country if properly managed. There are now in the province ninety-five well organized institutes, most of which are doing exceedingly good work. Even in some of the newer districts the work they are doing cannot easily be excelled, but in some of the districts where good work might reasonably be expected the work is not as well sustained as it should be. This is largely due to the secretary, who by the Act and rules governing farmers' institutes is made secretary-treasurer and managing director of the institute, and is in fact its chief officer. When an institute

has a first-class secretary everything goes on in a flourishing condition, but when the secretary is careless and not up to date in his methods a different condition of things exists. The activity of the secretary is illustrated by the way in which the annual reports are sent in. According to the Act each institute must forward to the superintendent a copy of the annual report not later than the 1st of July, that is, the 1st of July is the last date on which the annual reports can be accepted by the superintendent. Already we have received reports from West Kent, West Elgin, North Middlesex, West York, South Wellington, North Muskoka, West Victoria, North Ontario, Halton and Peel. Each week hereafter we will acknowledge the receipt of the annual reports. These annual reports contain a list of the officers and directors, the names of the points at which meetings have been held during the year and the attendance at each meeting. The points are named at which winter meetings will be held, both regular and supplementary, and the financial statement is also given. Those which have already come to hand are in excellent condition, and the secretaries of these institutes are to be congratulated on the promptness and efficiency with which they have commenced their work for the new institute year.

Selection of Seed Wheat.

Any farmer who has ever closely observed a wheat field just before ripening has noticed that there is a great difference in the heads. Some are early, large and well shaped; while others have just the opposite qualities. The observing farmer may make those qualities a basis for selection.

Every farmer should plan to select the choicest heads from his wheat fields for a start in choice seed wheat. There is no time better for this work than the week prior to the ripening of

the crop. At this time, the farmer should go through the field and mark the plants that seem to fit his ideal. When the crop is harvested, only the choicest heads from the marked plants should be saved, and only the finest grains sown. If this process is kept up for several years, the farmer may originate an improved variety.

GEO. L. CLOTHIER.

Kansas State Agricultural College.

Green Feed or Hay for Hogs.

An experiment carried on at the Kansas Agricultural College some time ago, with pigs on alfalfa pasture and a light ration of corn, shows that after deducting the probable gain due to the corn, there was 776 pounds of pork produced per acre of alfalfa pasture. With hogs at \$3.30 per hundred pounds, this gives \$25.60 per acre for alfalfa, and the stand was not injured by the pasturing.

During the past six months two experiments have been carried on to test feeding alfalfa hay to fattening hogs. The first experiment showed a gain of 868 pounds of pork per ton of alfalfa, after deducting the gain due to the grain fed. In the second, the hay was much inferior in quality to the first, but showed a gain due to the hay of \$338 pounds. These experiments, with hogs at \$3.30 per hundred, make the alfalfa hay worth \$28.64 and \$11.15 per ton respectively.

The college bought 14 head of stock hogs that arrived at the college barn Saturday, May 20. They were in fair shape for stock hogs, but had evidently not seen any green food for some time. The lot in which they were turned had not been used for about a month and had quite a growth of weeds in it, which the hogs began eating very greedily. They were given a feed of kafir, but they preferred the weeds and ate very little grain. The bunch weighed 1700 pounds when put in the lot, and about 40 hours later they weighed 1808, a gain of 108 pounds; and they had eaten only 80 pounds of grain. Of course this was mostly fill, but it was just the thing to dilate the digestive apparatus and get them in condition to feed. Alfalfa is the best crop for such feed. Clover is nearly equal, and many other grain feeds stand well up in the list.

Our state is famous for large crops of weeds, and where farmers do not have either alfalfa or clover, a good profit may be obtained by free feeding of weeds. The health of the hogs will be better and more pounds of pork will be made from each bushel of grain fed.

J. G. HANEY.