

# FARMING, LIVE STOCK, HORTICULTURE AND EVERYTHING OF FARM INTEREST

## PROSPECTS FOR APPLE CROP REPORTED AS SATISFACTORY

Tent Caterpillars Have Damaged Yield in Some Parts of Ontario, But Thoro Spraying Has Kept Down Pest Generally — Reports on Other Fruit.

The season for apples, according to present indications will be a very satisfactory one. There are certain sections of course where on account of local conditions the crop has been reduced; but these are in the main very small areas. In Ontario there are certain areas where the tent caterpillar has caused enough damage to very seriously affect the crop, but in all orchards where thoro spraying has been done and where the owners have given the orchard careful attention the yield will be a very satisfactory one. The bloom was very heavy and the set has been a very good one. There is a fairly general report that the crop will be short in Brant county and that winter apples in Middlesex have not set very well. Otherwise prospects are good throughout the province.

**Pears.** The pear crop in Ontario will be a light one. In the southern counties the crop is reported fair, with Kieffer particularly abundant, but in eastern Ontario trees were badly winter-killed and the crop, except in a few instances, will be an entire failure.

**Plums.** Plum trees blossomed well in southern Ontario, but the set was a very light one, and the crop will be below average. In the county of Lincoln, Japanese varieties appear to be almost an entire failure and even the European sorts are reported light. Further east in Ontario, the plum crop is a total failure on account of winter-killing of buds, and in many cases the trees themselves have been seriously injured. In the province of Quebec the prospects for the native American varieties are good. Nova Scotia reports a very heavy blossom, but up to date no information has been received regarding the set. In British Columbia the conditions are generally favorable and a crop considerably greater than last year is expected.

**Peaches.** So far as Ontario is concerned the reports remain practically the same as those which were published a month ago. With the exception of the Essex Peninsula and a slight scattering in Lambton county, the peach crop in Ontario is a total failure. In the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia, the later estimates are not so favorable as those received earlier in the season. The reports on early varieties are still quite promising, and for the later varieties the general report appears to be that slightly over half crop will be harvested. In the Kootenay Valley the peach crop is a failure.

**Tomatoes.** In Western Ontario, the acreage under tomatoes is unquestionably the largest for many years. As a direct consequence of the peach crop failure, a number of growers planted tomatoes, presuming that the profits to be derived from them would offset the loss sustained from the failure of the peach crop. There is consequently a grave danger that the supply of tomatoes this year will be much greater than the demand and that prices will be very low. The heaviest plantings appear to be in the counties of Lincoln and Wentworth. There has also been a heavy planting of tomatoes in the Okanagan Valley in British Columbia.

**Cherries.** An abundant crop of all varieties of cherries is reported from the Niagara

district and from the southern and western counties of Ontario. In the counties of Norfolk, Peel and Wentworth, the reports indicate that the sweet varieties will yield only a light crop, but the report is extremely good for all other varieties. The same injury which reduced the crop of pears in the eastern part of Ontario, has seriously affected the crop of cherries, and the result will be a very light yield and in many orchards a complete failure. Practically a full crop is reported from Nova Scotia. There have been some reports from British Columbia stating that in the Okanagan district the set was not a particularly good one; in the Kootenay Valley the prospects are excellent.

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The grape crop is one upon which growers are generally safe in relying for it is only in very unusual cases that there is any shortage in commercial orchards. This season is no exception. Reports from the Niagara District indicate a crop between medium and large, and in many cases fully 25 per cent. larger than was harvested last year. In other sections of Ontario, where vineyards are few in number, there has been considerable injury by frost.

**Strawberries.** As a general rule the strawberry crop will be below average, and prices will run high. The cause of this shortage varies with the particular district from which these reports originate. In eastern Ontario there has been a great deal of winter injury to the plants, and in some cases the drought of 1913 so weakened the mother plants that the stand this year was not a good one. In other parts of Ontario the wet spring interfered very seriously with the proper fertilization of the blossoms.

**Insect Pests.** Undoubtedly, the most serious insect pest this season is the tent caterpillar which is completely destroying many orchards throughout Ontario and Quebec. In orchards which have not been thoroughly sprayed the trees have been completely gutted with this pest, and are now almost beyond control. It is unfortunate that such a state of affairs should exist for there is no reason why the tent caterpillar should not be controlled by efficient spraying. The bud moth has been reported from the Counties of Lambton and Norfolk.

### FREE PUBLICATIONS ON AGRICULTURE

The department of agriculture at Ottawa has available for free distribution upwards of two hundred publications including reports, bulletins, and circulars. These have been issued, from time to time, by the several branches and deal with almost every phase of agricultural science and practice. A list of these has been printed in pamphlet form giving the title, author, and date of each. This list is for free distribution and may be procured on application to the publications branch of the department of agriculture at Ottawa.

## PRODUCING MILK ECONOMICALLY

Each Cow Should Be Made to Show a Good Profit—Two Dollars for One.

The manufacturer perhaps more than the retailer looks closely after the matter of cost, knowing that his principal hope of making a good profit lies in obtaining economy in the actual production of the article, for no profit can be expected if the selling price is below the cost price.

Is not the dairy farmer a manufacturer? So it would seem to be wise to look to the more closely after cost, especially as he does not expect the selling price of milk to soar. Assuming that the farm is in good condition and carefully handled, what does milk cost per hundred pounds? That can be ascertained only by keeping records of each individual cow.

This is all the more necessary because "man (and cows) are deceivers ever." They may appear to be good heavy producers, but their value as economical producers can only be determined when their yield of milk and fat is checked up by the scales and test. Of what use is it when the farmer pays 50¢ per 100 pounds to keep cows, whose milk costs \$1.45 per 100 pounds just for feed alone? This is what often happens till cost testing is taken up. Milk and feed record forms are supplied free on application to the dairy division, Ottawa.

It is quite possible to have one dollar's worth of feed return two dollars' worth of milk thru good cows—that is cows selected by the test. This is both economical and profitable milk taken up. Milk and feed record forms are supplied free on application to the dairy division, Ottawa.

### COATCOOK FARMER TO RAISE HORSES

Eugene Baldwin of Coatcook is making a short visit to this province on the outlook for some Clydesdale horses. Last week he purchased two Clydesdale mares from G. A. Brodie of Newmarket. These mares are three years old and weigh about fifteen hundred each and should easily reach the thirty-two hundred mark when fully grown. They were both bred by Mr. Brodie from the old country, and are daughters of Radium, who are one

## STALLION ENROLMENT GIVES GOOD RESULTS IN PROVINCE

More Complete Records Obtained in Second Year Than in First—Practice Serves as Protection to Farmers and Breeders—Furnishes Proofs.

The second year of stallion enrolment in this province, is drawing to a close, and it was to be expected, the enrolment is much more complete than in 1913.

Last year at the close of the season July 31, there had been enrolled 2760 stallions, up to June 15, this year, 2224 of these had renewed their certificates and 760 which were not enrolled last year had renewed theirs. The total enrolled to date, of 3004. From this it will be seen that 524 horses which were enrolled last year either are not doing business in the province this year, or are breaking the law. The greater number of these have been "not" to leave the province, while a smaller number have died and a number of owners of grades have reported their horses for sale. As it is only good for one year, the renewal should be made at once.

What is needed at this time, more than anything else, is said, is an appreciation of the benefits of the act by the owners of mares throughout the province. In the past, many stallions have been represented as pure bred by owners and groomers, when it was im-

possible to have them recorded in the stud-book of the breed to which they were held to belong. To satisfy himself as to whether such representations are correct or not, all that is necessary for the mare owner to do is to ask the stallion owner to produce his certificate of enrolment. If his horse is really a pure bred it will be stated on the certificate in plain type. If he cannot be recorded as a pure bred, it will be stated in prominent type on the certificate that he is a grade. This information will not be of great value to the owner of pure bred mares as he is acquainted with matters connected with registration. The man who will receive real benefit from this is the one who is endeavoring to have his horses registered by the grading up process, which is permitted with several breeds, so he can in this way assure himself that every cross he makes will count.

Advice to Beginners. The man who is starting in the business of breeding will also find it to his advantage to note whether the horse he intends breeding to, has been inspected or not, and bred only to those horses which have been inspected and approved as those who did not have their horses inspected were in many cases afraid that if they had submitted them for inspection, they would have been rejected for some of the diseases or malformations mentioned in the act. It would be wisdom on his part to insist on a stallion having a form 1 certificate before deciding to breed to him.

## SEEK TO DISCOVER FLAX HARVESTER

Necessity of Hand-Pulling Crop Limits Amount Grown in Province.

### HINTS ON GROWING IT

Best Soil is Deep, Moist, Medium Loam, Well Drained.

The amount of flax grown in the province at the present time is very limited, one reason being that the crop must be hand pulled. There are now a number of companies who are endeavoring to obtain a machine which will do this work, and if their efforts are crowned with success, the cost of harvesting the crop will be very greatly reduced.

Flax can be successfully grown on any soil that at the present time is very limited, one reason being that the crop must be hand pulled. There are now a number of companies who are endeavoring to obtain a machine which will do this work, and if their efforts are crowned with success, the cost of harvesting the crop will be very greatly reduced.

Requires Well Drained Land. One very important factor in the selection of the field for the flax crop is that it be well drained and not one on which the water stands in the

spring. The seed is small and it is necessary that the top soil be in a fine condition, so that the seed is able to come in contact with all the surrounding soil particles.

The seed germinates rapidly and requires food almost at once in an available form. The finer and more compact the soil is the more easily will it supply the moisture and nourishment to the delicate roots, and therefore the quicker the growth will be.

Fall plowed land is preferable, but spring plowed land with a little extra care in the preparation of the seed bed can be relied upon to give good results. When disk the spring-plowed land it should be the object to work the particles into contact with the seed on all sides. The seed should not be covered deeply on account of its small size.

**Sow Seed Early.** Flax should be sown as early as possible, as it is very seldom that a crop is injured in the spring. When the crop is late sown it has a tendency to ripen unevenly and to weigh lighter. The quantity of seed to sow is about 30 or 40 pounds to the acre. The seed should be sown broadcast and not drilled. This can be done with a broadcast sower or with the ordinary drill, by removing the boots at the bottoms of the spouts and fastening a board on a stand below so that the seed, falling on this, will slide off and scatter broadcast. When sowing a roller should be attached to the sower or drill as both operations can be done by once going over the land.

Flax being the earliest crop sown is the first to be harvested, and the land can be then sown to fall wheat, which is one of the best crops to follow with.

### MEANS TO PREVENT POWDERY POTATO SCAB

J. W. Eastham, chief assistant botanist of the Central Experimental Farm, has recently prepared a circular entitled "Powdery Scab of Potatoes." This disease has been found in the outcrop provinces of Canada, but has not until recently been distinguished from the common scab. The United States authorities have a regulation stating that all potatoes which are imported have to undergo a rigid examination on entry, and powdery scab is one of the diseases for which they are on the lookout. Thus far in Canada it has not proved as serious as scab, but if the growers are warned now the chances are that they will be able to keep it from spreading.

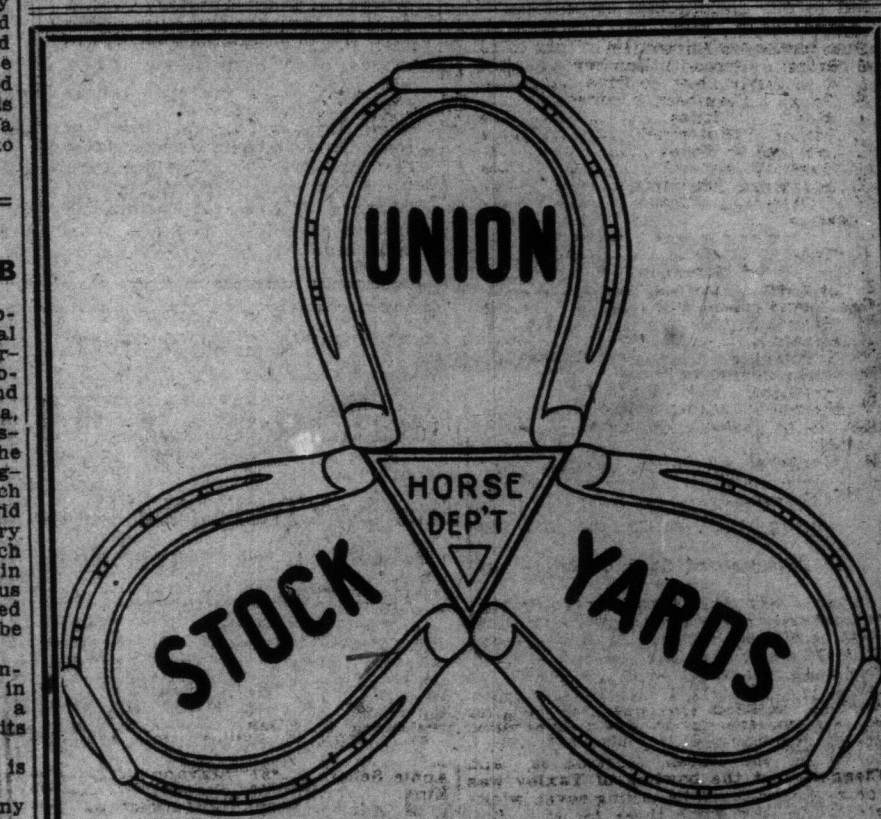
The nature, symptoms, and preventative measures are fully outlined in the circular, and the following is a summary of recommendations for its control: Use only seed from a crop that is free from the disease. Disinfect such seed to destroy any stray disease germs. Use land that is known to be free from the disease, which for safety in districts where the disease is present will be land not previously planted to potatoes. Isolate the crop from any field showing the disease and take all possible precautions to prevent the spores being carried on implements.

### PERMANENT LAYING HOUSE FOR POULTRY

A plan of a permanent laying house for poultry, with brief description and an estimate of material required for the house as planned, is contained in pamphlet No. 5 of the poultry division of the live stock branch of the Dominion department of agriculture. This plan has been specially prepared for use in the Province of Prince Edward Island by W. A. Brown and T. A. Benson; however, it includes a number of features, which in the opinion of the writers, could be advantageously adopted throughout the greater part of the Dominion of Canada. Copies of this pamphlet may be obtained free upon application to the publication branch, department of agriculture, Ottawa.

### LONDON CHEESE BOARD.

LONDON, Ont., June 27.—The offerings on the London Cheese Board today are as follows: Dorchester Union 140 c; North Street 145 c; Maple Grove 80 c; Blanchard and Nisour 145 c; Seville 155 c; Kintore 155 c; Burrhead 15 c; Gladstone 145 c; Thorndale 135 c; Glasgow 100c; W. Nisour 85 c; Twin c; Pond Mills 60 c; 1516 boxes offered; no sales. Bidding from 12 to 12 3/4c.



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