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THE SECOND PRIZE DAIRY FARM IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Mr. J. W. Richardson's Farm described by W. F. Stephen, who, along with Mr. Simpson Rennie, placed the Awards in this the Second Year of the Dairy Farms Competition conducted by Farm and Dairy

THINGS are done on a large scale at Riverside Farm, the home of Mr. J. W. Richardson, Haldimand County, Ont., which farm was awarded second place this year among the dairy farms of Ontario. The farm is of rolling loam and clay land. It comprises 365 acres, the larger part of which is under cultivation.

The former owner, Mr. Matt. Richardson, and his consort, still reside at Riverside, and enjoy the fruits of their labors. The son, however, Mr. J. W. Richardson, bears the responsibility of managing the farm.

MUCH ALFALFA GROWN

"Riverside" is a dairy farm, and largely, only those feeds favorable to a large milk flow are grown. Alfalfa forms a considerable part of the crop and on that account no particular rotation is practised. Alfalfa and silage take a large place in the farm economy and form the bulk of the rough feeders fed to the stock at "Riverside." Large fields of corn and of alfalfa as well as clover and timothy are grown. Frequently some of the timothy is marketed. Oats and barley along with fall wheat comprise the grain crops. A large acreage of roots is grown. Owing to the cold, wet spring, the stand of corn at the time of our visit was rather uneven. The stand of alfalfa indicated that some of the fields had been down to this crop too long without having been plowed up.

The Riverside herd of Holsteins enjoy a wide reputation. Many animals of the best blood and with good records have been bred there. At the time of our visit, the herd was smaller than it was a year ago, since a number of head were sold by auction last winter. This caused the score to be reduced several points this year. We found 35 cows milking, eight dry cows, together with a number of young cattle and 29 calves.

RECORDS MOST COMPLETE

The herd records are kept most complete. All the cows in the herd have either passed the Record of Merit test or are from Record of Merit cows. It is interesting to note that up to the 1908 meeting of the Canadian Holstein-Friesian Association, of the 100 Holstein cows that had been officially tested, one-sixth of these were bred at "Riverside." Particular attention has always been paid to the selection of the sires for the herd. Milk from the herd is sent to the cheese factory in summer and to the creamery in winter.

Among the other stock kept at Riverside, the judges noted 16 horses. Two of these were young brood mares. There were seven sows of Yorkshire breeding and about 50 young hogs, all of good quality. The pigs are well housed in a piggery divided into eight pens, with elevated

sleeping quarters. Poultry has its place, too, at Riverside, and is kept on quite an extensive scale.

FARM BUILDINGS AT "RIVERSIDE"

Large and adequate farm buildings are a part of Riverside Farm. The stable has tying capa-



The Orchard is Not an Ideal Packing House

Although the apple crop in Eastern Canada this year is away below the average, the returns to the growers will not necessarily be reduced to anything like the same extent as is the yield. Good prices prevail. Those who have cared for their orchards and sprayed them properly have some fruit of excellent quality. If carefully packed these will net returns far in excess of what is ordinarily obtained for No. 1 fruit.

city for nearly 80 head of cattle; there are a number of box stalls besides. The stables are convenient, well lighted and fairly well ventilated, but they are not as complete as stables of more recent construction. At the home barn, there are two large silos; one of these is square, 16 by 16 by 32, the other is 13 by 32, of circular brick construction with a stove top. At the new barn on the other farm is a new circular concrete block silo 14 by 30. The dairy room, milk cooling house, implement buildings, and so forth, are all well arranged. Mr. Richardson has a workshop equipped with forge, iron and wood working tools; here much of the repair work for the farm is done.

An orchard seven acres in extent and well kept,

and a well arranged garden, are a part of "Riverside." An apiary contributes its portion to the full larder in the kitchen pantry, and is, through its product, a source of revenue as well.

THE FARM BEAUTIFUL

The house is well located in respect to the farm and buildings. It is a beautiful large mansion complete in almost every respect. Shrubby and flowers beautify the lawn, while hundreds of spruce trees that have been planted along the roadway add shade and beauty to the farm.

In the home all that makes for education, pleasure and happiness is to be found—books, magazines, farm periodicals, music and so forth. Letter files and a typewriter in the office facilitate work in the business end. We were surprised, however, to learn that no cash account of the farm operations was kept because of paying all accounts by cheque.

SOME WEAKNESSES

While there are some strong features about Riverside Farm, there are some weaknesses, these being at the time of our visit, want of underdrainage, rather many weeds, and lack of finish in workmanship; these all tended to reduce the total score. We were not given books on either the first or second prize farms to show receipts or expenditures, yet I believe that judging only from a financial standpoint, this farm, acre per acre, stood first; but adhering strictly to our score card, "Riverside" had to take second place as it lacked the completeness and the perfectness found on Mr. Penhale's farm, to which was given the premier award.—W. F. S.

The Type of Hog to Raise

M. L. Smith, Huron Co., Ont.

While we desire a lengthy type of hog there is danger of ruining the constitution and feeding value of hogs by breeding for too much length. In the show ring, I have seen the judges give the red ribbons to slab sided creatures simply because they had the required length. Such hogs would never make good feeders. For our own profit we must breed hogs that make good Wiltshire sides but we must not spoil the constitution and feeding quality in order to please the packer.

In order to get the most saleable type of hog, we have always kept large Yorkshires. The type is not a matter of breed however. At Toronto Exhibition this year, I saw the very type of hog which I think ideal for the farmer, in an exhibit of Chester Whites, which breed I had always regarded as a fat type. Mr. R. H. Harding of Thorndale, an old Chester White breeder, said that this breed of hogs could be developed into as fine a bacon type as any and some of the specimens of Chesters on exhibition seemed to bear out his contention.

We consider, however, that it is much easier to get good bacon type in our more common breeds, namely, Yorkshires, Tamworths or Berkshires.